



## Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service

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# Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup

Week Ending June 6, 2004

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***This report can be found on the Internet at [www.nass.usda.gov/pa](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa)***

**Poor week for Field Work:** There were 3 days suitable for field work. Soil moisture increased and was rated as 57 percent adequate and 43 percent surplus due to the rainy and wet conditions across the state during the last week. Ninety-six percent of the spring tillage has been completed, which is ahead of 89 percent the previous year, and the 95 percent for the 5-year average. Principal farm activities included spring tillage, planting of spring crops, cutting the first hay crop, spreading fertilizer, spreading manure, applying herbicides and pesticides, and repairing fences and machinery.

**Crops:** The corn crop in Pennsylvania is currently 92 percent planted, which is ahead of last year at 74 percent, and ahead of the 5-year average of 88 percent. Corn emergence, at 77 percent complete, is ahead of last year at 57 percent, and the same as the 5-year average, which is also 77 percent. Corn is at an average height of 11 inches across the state, and is rated at 1 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 34 percent excellent. Winter wheat progress reached 97 percent headed during the last week, compared to 75 percent last year and 90 percent for a 5-year average. The winter wheat crop was rated as 4 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 56 percent good and 16 percent excellent. Barley turning yellow reached 82 percent last week, which is greater than last year's average of 17 percent and ahead of the 5 year average of 63 percent. Barley has begun ripening, and is 5 percent ripe, this week last year, barley was not ripening, but a five year average has barley at 4 percent. Oats is 98 percent emerged, which is ahead compared to 96 percent last year and 95 percent for a 5-year average. Oats headed is currently 8 percent headed, opposed to just 2 percent in 2003, but close to the five year average of 9 percent. Oats condition is 2 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 52 percent good and 10 percent excellent. Soybeans are at 76 percent planted, compared to 49 percent in 2003 and 70 percent for a 5-year average. Soybeans emerged are 45 percent, which is ahead of last year at 24 percent, but behind the 5-year average of 52 percent. Potato planting has reached 96 percent complete by the end of last week, which is ahead of last year and the five year averages at 86 percent and 93 percent respectively. Alfalfa first cutting is 52 percent complete, compared to 34 percent last year and 52 percent for a 5-year average. Alfalfa stand last week was rated as 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 54 percent good and 20 percent excellent. The timothy clover stand was rated

1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 59 percent good and 13 percent was excellent. Cutting on the timothy clover hay is at 25 percent complete, compared with 12 percent last year and 23 percent for a 5-year average. The quality of the hay made so far was 10 percent very poor, 22 percent poor, 36 percent fair, 28 percent good, and 4 percent excellent.

Peach condition is rated as 1 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 2 percent fair, 66 percent good, and 30 percent at excellent. Apple condition is rated as 10 percent fair, 70 percent good, and 20 percent excellent.

**Livestock:** During the last week, the weather conditions have pasture land in Pennsylvania rated at 3 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 55 percent good and 14 percent excellent.

**U.S. As of May 30, 2004:** A series of storm systems brought heavy rainfall to the Corn Belt, particularly the southern part of the region, causing widespread fieldwork delays and localized flooding. Average temperatures were below normal across most of the region, but above normal in the southernmost areas. Light to moderate precipitation across the Great Plains benefitted small grains and summer crops. Though most of the Southeast received light to moderate precipitation, the southern Atlantic Coast States remained unfavorably dry. Widespread showers in the Pacific Northwest increased soil moisture reserves and improved small grain conditions. The Southwest remained dry, with below-normal temperatures, while widespread precipitation fell in the northern and central Rocky Mountains. Temperatures were above normal in the Northeast and below normal in the middle Atlantic Coast States, while moderate precipitation covered both areas. Crops: Corn was ninety percent emerged, compared with 76 percent last year and 80 percent for the 5-year average. Soybean growers had planted 77 percent of the crop, 10 points ahead of last year and 5 points ahead of normal. Soybean emergence, at 55 percent, was 23 points ahead of last year and 12 points ahead of the average. Winter wheat heading advanced to 87 percent complete, 7 points ahead of last year and 6 points ahead of normal. Barley growers had planted 94 percent of their crop, 1 point behind last year but 1 point ahead of normal. Eighty-six percent of the crop had emerged, compared with 81 percent last year and 75 percent for the 5-year average.

**Weather Data For Week Ending June 6, 2004**

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - June 6, 2004					GDD Base 40F Total
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	
<b>Northwest</b>												
Erie	74	46	62	-2	0.20	2	9.76	2.25	35	559	193	1,053
Franklin	77	44	61	-2	0.34	4	12.00	3.77	44	560	203	1,074
Meadville	74	43	60	-2	0.88	4	9.08	1.06	39	516	203	1,000
Mercer	74	34	57	-6	1.28	4	9.92	1.86	31	437	71	908
Springboro	76	39	60	-5	0.38	5	13.26	6.14	43	496	115	969
Warren	76	43	59	-4	0.86	4	14.93	6.42	42	518	176	1,016
<b>North Central</b>												
Bradford Region	71	35	57	-3	1.11	6	10.95	2.50	44	456	233	922
Emporium	75	38	59	-2	1.06	5	10.49	1.73	40	564	306	1,076
Kane	69	32	51	-8	0.98	5	11.33	2.61	35	250	32	659
Laporte	71	40	56	-7	1.71	5	11.84	3.59	45	464	102	942
Lock Haven	78	44	62	-2	0.95	4	12.71	4.94	34	671	267	1,248
Port Allegany	74	34	56	-4	0.98	5	10.92	2.94	38	466	193	930
Renovo	76	46	61	-3	0.97	5	9.33	1.56	34	636	232	1,183
Ridgway	75	38	57	-3	1.23	5	12.85	4.09	35	464	206	933
Stevenson Dam	77	41	60	-1	0.95	4	10.88	2.12	38	597	339	1,127
Towanda	77	42	59	-5	1.13	5	8.98	1.86	35	585	212	1,106
Wellsboro	70	37	56	-4	0.95	4	11.38	4.85	36	444	214	917
Williamsport	76	47	62	-4	0.95	5	9.98	2.01	43	700	219	1,287
<b>Northeast</b>												
Hawley	71	35	55	-6	1.97	4	10.13	1.92	32	461	182	941
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	74	45	60	-5	2.94	4	10.33	2.89	32	631	198	1,187
Susquehanna	75	43	59	-2	1.48	4	10.18	1.69	33	576	318	1,109
<b>West Central</b>												
Butler	78	43	61	-3	0.87	6	10.44	2.26	40	574	183	1,088
New Castle	80	46	63	-1	0.34	5	10.14	2.80	34	631	244	1,156
Slippery Rock	79	44	61	-2	0.64	6	11.72	3.95	44	600	253	1,135
<b>Central</b>												
Altoona/Blair	75	46	61	-4	0.83	6	11.05	3.43	36	654	204	1,185
DuBois	72	43	59	-5	0.92	6	12.99	4.62	47	565	208	1,069
Lewistown	77	49	62	-5	1.39	4	10.65	2.71	35	700	187	1,277
Middletown	78	53	64	-5	1.95	5	9.90	1.55	30	828	239	1,442
Prince Gallitzi	75	41	60	-3	0.66	6	12.40	2.56	35	570	252	1,071
Selinsgrove	77	48	62	-4	1.60	5	10.87	2.85	36	662	214	1,227
State College	75	51	62	-4	1.15	5	9.28	1.93	32	676	243	1,222
<b>East Central</b>												
Allentown-Bethel	78	51	63	-5	1.34	4	8.30	-0.22	32	712	196	1,308
Lehighnton	76	48	60	-6	1.77	5	11.64	3.16	34	627	136	1,195
Matamoras	74	41	57	-8	0.69	3	7.76	-1.26	31	495	75	1,017
Tobyhanna	76	40	57	-3	1.45	7	14.63	5.16	41	505	282	1,006
<b>Southwest</b>												
Pittsburgh/Alle	77	51	64	-1	0.93	6	10.15	1.91	36	760	306	1,324
Derry	75	45	61	-4	1.17	5	13.28	5.22	41	640	237	1,182
Myersdale	80	44	58	-6	0.77	5	11.35	2.32	31	505	114	995
Mount Pleasant	78	44	62	1	1.08	4	10.69	1.44	27	649	314	1,182
Pittsburgh Intl	78	47	65	-2	0.92	6	10.33	2.86	34	781	293	1,343
Rector	76	41	61	-2	0.95	6	13.57	4.32	46	656	321	1,201
Waynesburg	76	46	62	-3	1.73	7	10.48	2.27	36	661	231	1,200
<b>South Central</b>												
Biglerville	75	50	62	-6	2.35	5	12.86	5.01	34	754	167	1,338
Everett	75	42	57	-8	0.90	5	10.27	2.65	32	539	110	1,035
Hanover	79	50	63	-6	2.73	6	12.86	5.01	30	786	199	1,374
Shippensburg	78	51	63	-6	2.09	5	11.73	4.12	30	802	202	1,387
South Mountain	72	47	59	-6	2.59	5	14.51	6.89	27	630	187	1,157
York	77	50	62	-6	2.56	5	12.29	4.11	32	762	165	1,357
<b>Southeast</b>												
Green Lane	84	51	64	-2	1.06	4	9.15	0.77	33	818	338	1,437
Hamburg	79	50	63	-2	1.99	5	9.30	-0.47	36	723	316	1,318
Hopewell	79	52	63	-6	1.62	5	11.33	2.71	41	730	107	1,327
Lancaster	78	52	63	-4	1.65	5	10.38	2.28	36	772	254	1,377
Neshaminy Falls	82	44	64	-4	1.24	6	10.37	1.11	31	784	273	1,395
New Holland	78	53	63	-4	2.26	5	9.79	1.69	34	767	249	1,358
Philadelphia	81	58	67	-3	1.16	5	10.55	2.46	32	906	264	1,532
Philadelphia NE	82	56	66	-4	1.42	5	10.53	2.44	32	855	213	1,478
Reading	79	53	64	-4	2.23	5	9.34	0.20	34	783	288	1,392
Valley Forge Na	82	43	64	-6	0.96	5	9.43	0.81	30	776	153	1,375
Willow Grove	79	55	64	-3	1.22	5	7.42	-1.84	33	804	293	1,422

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.

Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.

Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.

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## Internet Reporters' Comments, By County:

*Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.*

BEAVER COUNTY, J Lee Miller (EXT) -- Frequent rains have made it difficult to harvest dry properly field cured hay. Warm weather has matured most grasses beyond the flowering stage and the quality is beginning to decline. Except for areas that have been flooded, most planting has been done in a timely manner.

CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little (FSA) -- The rainy conditions are hampering the hay making season. We had a hail storm on Tuesday that lasted about 20 minutes. The hail was larger than the size of a large pea. Some of the producers are trying to get those last acres of corn and potatoes planted, but the rains every day are making it very difficult. We really could use some nice hot dry weather for a few days.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker -- Poor week for field work. Some rain each day. Total of 1 3/8" in my rain gauge. Lot of hay got rained on due to change in weather report. We need some sunshine for hay making and to get the crops to grow.

CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS) -- Excellent weekend for field work. Farmers were busy making haylage, baling hay, and finishing planting corn and beans.

FOREST COUNTY, Thomas Tanner (FSA) -- Precipitation fell 6 of the 7 days of the past week. Oats are yellowing due to excess rainfall. Quality of hay is very poor because hay is overripe.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr (FSA) -- This week featured showers and cool weather. Some areas picked up 2 inches of rain for the week. Hay making was an adventure. Barley needs some dry weather and will begin to harvest as soon as it dries (about 7 days early). Late planting of corn has been delayed as well as soybeans. Fruit crops are looking good, but some areas of the county experienced light hail this week. No serious affect on the crops overall.

FULTON COUNTY, Russ McLucas -- Still wet enough here that by all rights we should not be on fields if it wasn't for being this late in season. Compaction will be a major issue once again.

HUNTINGTON COUNTY, Marina Kemper -- Tried to make some hay this week, just can't get enough drying time. This year is worse than last year for hay making, I sure hope the weather pattern soon changes!!!

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Andrew Frankenfield (EXT) -- Rainy weather continues to challenge growers. Some hay was

baled Sunday the rest was baled late in the week with more rain Saturday a lot of hay was rained on. Most of the corn is in, however some areas of the county got over 2" of rain again and others less than an inch all week. Not often you get 2 cool rainy days in a week this time of the year. Some say it is looking like last year.

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY, Terry Stehr (FSA) -- Daily rain showers create problems for those making hay.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer -- The corn growth has slowed somewhat due to the cool temperatures and wet soil conditions; also, there is slight flea beetle damage in spots. The barley and wheat crops look very good, especially, where nitrogen has been applied. The main activities undertaken this past week were, haymaking, planting of corn and soybeans, spraying herbicides, and repairing equipment. Warmer temperatures and drier conditions are needed.

TIOGA COUNTY, Pamela Barnes -- Wet till Thursday and Friday. Rain again on Saturday. Some more corn went in but lots more to go. If not plowing or planting trying to make haylage. Rutting up even the dry fields.

TIOGA COUNTY, Linda Carmichael -- During the three good days for field work this week a lot of hay put down, corn and seedings planted.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr (FSA) -- Fair week for field work with some progress made in planting, spraying and forage harvesting. Because of the wet, cool conditions, still almost no hay has been baled without wrapping. Crop growth generally remains good to excellent because of the adequate moisture. Early sweet corn plantings are still on a pace to be ready for harvest by July 4.

YORK COUNTY, Wayne Kurtz (FSA) -- Two inches of rain at weeks end brought field work to an end after some gains earlier in the week. In some ways 2004 is a reminder of 2003 weather patterns to date. Hay quality is fair at best with harvesting operations testing equipment and producers patience. Wheat growers are on the lookout for disease problems and barley harvest should begin next week. Corn and soybean progress appears good.

**PA Crop Progress for Week Ending June 6, 2004**

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Spring plowing	96	89	95
Corn, planted	92	74	88
Corn, emerged	77	57	77
Corn average height, inches	11	4	6
Barley, turning yellow	82	17	63
Barley, ripe	5	0	4
Wheat, heading or headed	97	75	90
Wheat, turning yellow	8	0	8
Oats, emerged	98	96	95
Oats, heading or headed	8	2	9
Soybeans, planted	76	49	70
Soybeans, emerged	45	24	52
Tobacco, Transplanted	70	15	56
Potatoes, planted	96	86	93
Alfalfa, 1st cutting	52	34	52
Timothy clover, 1st cutting	25	12	23

**PA Crop Condition for Week Ending June 6, 2004**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	1	1	20	44	34
Wheat	0	4	24	56	16
Oats	2	5	31	52	10
Soybeans	1	2	14	64	19
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	1	3	22	54	20
Timothy clover stand	1	3	24	59	13
Quality of hay made	10	22	36	28	4
Pasture	3	2	26	55	14
Peaches	1	1	2	66	30
Apples	0	0	10	70	20

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